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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Hungary	REPORT NO.	25X1
SUBJECT	Unemployment and Construction Stoppages	DATE DISTR.	29 June 1954
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25X1 1. Unemployment was the major subject of conversation in Budapest inns, on the streets, and around the various harbors during April 1954.

2. Instances of unemployment during April were numerous. An employee of the Csepel harbor in Budapest stated that the SDGP (Soviet State Danube Shipping) repair basin in Csepel has reduced its working force from around 200 members to 16. The Meszchart repair basin in Csepel laid off 80 of its 100 employees.

3. A former employee of a mirror factory in Budapest, who was dismissed from his job in November 1953 and has not been reemployed since, declared that 60 fellow workers had been laid off in his factory during November 1953.

4. The labor force assembling pre-fabricated cement window frames, door frames, etc., in a large hall along the quay in Budapest has been cut from 300 persons to about 150. These cement products were being assembled for use at the steel plant in Sztalinvaros. Workers at this factory attributed the drastic cuts to a complete production standstill at Sztalinvaros. The work stoppage there is blamed on a lack of iron ore and coal.

5. Hungarian employees who were questioned about the numerous halts in construction projects were of the opinion that the real reason lay in a lack of funds.

25X1 6. At Vac, construction work on the Hungarian River Guard harbor at kilometer marker 1681 has come to a complete stop. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] a cement factory is being built on the hill overlooking the harbor area and that the harbor has been stopped until the work on the cement factory is completed. ²

25X1 1. [redacted] Comment: It was expected that resumption of Danube River activity in the spring would improve the employment situation in the harbor areas.

2. [redacted]

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